

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for the potentiation of an immune response to an infectious
2 disease after the discontinuation of treatment for the infection or prior to vaccination,
3 comprising administering to a subject a composition comprising IL-2 in an amount effective to
4 maintain immune enhancement without eliciting toxicity of Grade 1 or higher as defined by
 the World Health Organization.

 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has Human
 Immunodeficiency Virus.

 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the subject has undetectable plasma
 viral RNA.

 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the subject has discontinued HAART.

 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has HCV.

 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the subject has undetectable plasma
 viral RNA levels.

 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the subject has discontinued IFN- α
 therapy or combination IFN- α and ribavirin therapy.

 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of IL-2 administered is
 about 100,000 to about 500,000 IU/m² body surface/day.

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Figure 1 is a schematic diagram of the experimental setup. It shows a subject seated at a table, looking at a video screen. A camera is positioned above the screen. The screen displays a target (a small circle) and a starting point (a larger circle). The subject's hand is positioned at the starting point. The distance between the starting point and the target is labeled as 'Distance'. The subject's hand is labeled 'Hand'.